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Prevention and Control of Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) — United States, 2012– 13 Influenza Season

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In 2010, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) first recommended annual influenza vaccination for all persons aged ≥ 6 months in the United States ([1](#)). Annual influenza vaccination of all persons aged ≥ 6 months continues to be recommended. This document 1) describes influenza vaccine virus strains included in the U.S. seasonal influenza vaccine for 2012–13; 2) provides guidance for the use of influenza vaccines during the 2012–13 season, including an updated vaccination schedule for children aged 6 months through 8 years and a description of available vaccine products and indications; 3) discusses febrile seizures associated with administration of influenza and 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate (PCV-13) vaccines; 4) provides vaccination recommendations for persons with a history of egg allergy; and 5) discusses the development of quadrivalent influenza vaccines for use in future influenza seasons. Information regarding issues related to influenza vaccination that are not addressed in this update is available in CDC's *Prevention and Control of Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), 2010* and associated updates ([1,2](#)).

Methodology for the formulation of the ACIP annual vaccine recommendations has been described previously ([1](#)). The ACIP Influenza Work Group meets every 2–4 weeks throughout the year. Work Group membership includes several voting members of ACIP and representatives of ACIP Liaison Organizations. Meetings are held by teleconference and include discussion of influenza-related issues, such as influenza surveillance, vaccine effectiveness and safety, coverage in groups recommended for vaccination, program feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and anticipated vaccine supply. Presentations are requested from invited experts, and published and unpublished data are discussed. CDC's Influenza Division provides data on influenza surveillance, antiviral resistance, and vaccine effectiveness. CDC's Immunization Safety Office provides information on vaccine safety, and CDC's Immunization Services Division provides information on vaccine distribution and coverage.

Vaccine Strains for the 2012–13 Influenza Season

U.S. influenza vaccines for 2012–13 will contain A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)-like, A/Victoria/361/2011 (H3N2)-like, and B/Wisconsin/1/2010-like (Yamagata lineage) antigens. The influenza A(H3N2) and B antigens differ from the respective 2010–11 and 2011–12 seasonal vaccine antigens ([3](#)). The influenza A(H1N1) vaccine virus strain is derived from an

influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 (2009[H1N1]) virus and was included in the 2009(H1N1) monovalent pandemic vaccine as well as the 2010–11 and 2011–12 seasonal vaccines.

Recommendations for Vaccination

Routine annual influenza vaccination is recommended for all persons aged ≥ 6 months. To permit time for production of protective antibody levels (4,5), vaccination optimally should occur before onset of influenza activity in the community. Therefore, vaccination providers should offer vaccination as soon as vaccine is available. Vaccination should be offered throughout the influenza season (i.e., as long as influenza viruses are circulating in the community).

Vaccine Dose Considerations for Children Aged 6 Months Through 8 Years

Children aged 6 months through 8 years require 2 doses of influenza vaccine (administered a minimum of 4 weeks apart) during their first season of vaccination to optimize immune response. In a study of children aged 5 through 8 years receiving trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (TIV) for the first time, the proportion of children with protective antibody responses was significantly higher after 2 doses compared with a single dose (6). Several studies have indicated that the time interval between two initial doses (from 4 weeks up to 1 year) of the same antigen might not be critical (7–9). However, because of the antigenic novelty of the 2009(H1N1) pandemic virus, which is anticipated to continue circulating during 2012–13, exposure history to this antigen also must be considered. Children who last received seasonal (trivalent) influenza vaccine before the 2010–11 season but did not receive a vaccine containing 2009(H1N1) antigen (either seasonal vaccine since July 2010 or monovalent 2009[H1N1] vaccine) will not have received this antigen. These children are recommended to receive 2 doses this season, even if 2 doses of seasonal influenza vaccine were received before the 2010–11 season. This is illustrated in two approaches for determining the number of doses required for children aged 6 months through 8 years, both of which are acceptable ([Figure 1](#)).

1. The first approach takes into consideration only doses of seasonal influenza vaccine received since July 1, 2010. This recommendation is harmonized with that of the American Academy of Pediatrics (10). This approach has the advantage of simplicity, particularly in settings in which ascertaining vaccination history before the 2010–11 season is difficult. Using this approach, children aged 6 months through 8 years need only 1 dose of vaccine in 2012–13 if they received a total of 2 or more doses of seasonal vaccine since July 1, 2010. Children who did not receive a total of 2 or more doses of seasonal vaccine since July 1, 2010, require 2 doses in 2012–13.

2. In settings where adequate vaccination history from before the 2010–11 season is available, the second approach may be used. By this approach, if a child aged 6 months through 8 years is known to have received at least 2 seasonal influenza vaccines during any previous season, and at least 1 dose of a 2009(H1N1)-containing vaccine (i.e., either 2010–11 or 2011–12 seasonal vaccine or the monovalent 2009[H1N1] vaccine), then the child needs only 1 dose for 2012–13. Using this approach, children aged 6 months through 8 years need only 1 dose of vaccine in 2012–13 if they have received any of the following:

- 2 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine since July 1, 2010; or
- 2 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine before July 1, 2010, and 1 or more doses of monovalent 2009(H1N1) vaccine; or
- 1 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine before July 1, 2010, and 1 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine since July 1, 2010.

Children for whom one of these conditions is not met require 2 doses in 2012–13.

Available Vaccine Products and Indications

Multiple influenza vaccines (with the same antigenic composition) are expected to be available during the 2012–13 season ([Table](#)). Current package inserts should be consulted for updated information and description of additional components of various vaccine formulations, indications, contraindications, and precautions.

TIV preparations, with the exception of Fluzone Intradermal (Sanofi Pasteur), should be administered intramuscularly. For adults and older children, the deltoid is the preferred site. Infants and younger children should be vaccinated in the anterolateral thigh. Specific guidance regarding site and needle length for intramuscular administration can be found in ACIP's General Recommendations on Immunization ([11](#)). For intramuscular TIV preparations, children aged 6 through 35 months receive 0.25 mL per dose; persons aged ≥ 36 months receive 0.5 mL per dose ([Table](#)). Fluzone Intradermal is administered intradermally via a single-dose, prefilled microinjection syringe. The preferred site for administration is over the deltoid muscle.

Age indications for the various TIV products differ. All TIV preparations contain the same quantity of hemagglutinin (15 μg per vaccine virus strain per 0.5 mL dose; 45 μg total), except Fluzone Intradermal and Fluzone High-Dose (Sanofi Pasteur). Fluzone Intradermal is indicated for persons aged 18 through 64 years and contains 9 μg of hemagglutinin per vaccine virus strain (27 μg total) in a 0.1 mL dose. Fluzone High-Dose is indicated for persons aged ≥ 65 years and contains 60 μg of hemagglutinin per vaccine virus strain (180 μg total) in a 0.5 mL dose. Within specified age indications, ACIP expresses no preference for any given TIV formulation over another.

The intranasally administered live-attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV), FluMist (MedImmune), is indicated for healthy, nonpregnant persons aged 2 through 49 years. No preference is indicated for LAIV versus TIV in this age group ([1](#)). Persons with a history of egg allergy should receive TIV rather than LAIV. Persons who care for severely immunosuppressed persons who require a protective environment should not receive LAIV given the theoretical risk for transmission of the live-attenuated vaccine virus.

Febrile Seizures Associated with TIV and PCV13

Febrile seizures are common in young children. At least one febrile seizure is experienced by 2%–5% of children, and nearly all children who have a febrile seizure recover quickly and are healthy afterwards ([12](#)). Before the 2010–11 influenza season, an increased risk for febrile seizures after TIV administration had not been observed in the United States ([13,14](#)). During the 2010–11 influenza season, CDC and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) conducted enhanced monitoring for febrile seizures after influenza vaccination because of reports of an increased risk for fever and febrile seizures in young children in Australia associated with a 2010 Southern Hemisphere vaccine produced by CSL Biotherapies (up to nine febrile seizures per 1,000 doses) ([15](#)). Because of the findings in Australia, ACIP does not recommend the U.S.-licensed CSL Biotherapies' TIV, Afluria, for children aged < 9 years ([2,16](#)) ([Table](#)).

Surveillance for U.S.-licensed influenza vaccines during the 2010–11 season subsequently detected safety signals for febrile seizures in young children after TIV administration ([17,18](#)). Further assessment determined that the increased risk was in children aged 6 months through 4 years on the day of vaccination to the day after (the 0–1 day risk window). The risk was higher when children received concomitant PCV13 (i.e., when the two vaccines are administered at the same health-care visit) and peaked at approximately age 16 months ([18](#)).

No increased risk was observed in children aged ≥ 5 years after TIV or in children of any age after LAIV. The magnitude of the increased risk for febrile seizures in young children in the United States (<1 per 1,000 children vaccinated) was substantially lower than the risk observed in Australia in 2010 (15).

After evaluating the data on febrile seizures from the 2010–11 influenza season and taking into consideration benefits and risks of vaccination, no policy change was recommended for use of TIV or PCV13 for the 2011–12 season (16,19,20). Surveillance data on febrile seizures in young children after administration of influenza vaccine for the 2011–12 influenza season (same vaccine formulation as 2010–11) were consistent with those from the 2010–11 influenza season (CDC, unpublished data, 2012). No changes in the use of TIV or PCV13 are recommended for the 2012–13 influenza season. As stated previously, ACIP does not recommend the U.S.-licensed CSL Biotherapies' TIV, Afluria, for children aged <9 years (2,16) (Table).

Influenza Vaccination of Persons with a History of Egg Allergy

Severe allergic and anaphylactic reactions can occur in response to a number of influenza vaccine components, but such reactions are rare. All currently available influenza vaccines are prepared by means of inoculation of virus into chicken eggs. The use of influenza vaccines for persons with a history of egg allergy has been reviewed recently by ACIP (16). For the 2011–12 influenza season, ACIP recommended that persons with egg allergy who report only hives after egg exposure should receive TIV, with several additional safety measures, as described in this document. Recent examination of VAERS data indicated no disproportionate reporting of allergy or anaphylaxis after influenza vaccination during the 2011–12 season (21). For the 2012–13 influenza season, ACIP recommends the following:

1. Persons with a history of egg allergy who have experienced only hives after exposure to egg should receive influenza vaccine, with the following additional safety measures (Figure 2):
 - a) Because studies published to date involved use of TIV, TIV rather than LAIV should be used (22);
 - b) Vaccine should be administered by a health-care provider who is familiar with the potential manifestations of egg allergy; and
 - c) Vaccine recipients should be observed for at least 30 minutes for signs of a reaction after administration of each vaccine dose (22).

Other measures, such as dividing and administering the vaccine by a two-step approach and skin testing with vaccine, are not necessary (22).

2. Persons who report having had reactions to egg involving such symptoms as angioedema, respiratory distress, lightheadedness, or recurrent emesis; or who required epinephrine or another emergency medical intervention, particularly those that occurred immediately or within a short time (minutes to hours) after egg exposure, are more likely to have a serious systemic or anaphylactic reaction upon reexposure to egg proteins. Before receipt of vaccine, such persons should be referred to a physician with expertise in the management of allergic conditions for further risk assessment (Figure 2).

3. All vaccines should be administered in settings in which personnel and equipment for rapid recognition and treatment of anaphylaxis are available. ACIP recommends that all vaccination providers should be familiar with the office emergency plan (11).

4. Some persons who report allergy to egg might not be egg-allergic. Those who are able to eat lightly cooked egg (e.g., scrambled egg) without reaction are unlikely to be allergic. Egg-allergic persons might tolerate egg in baked products (e.g., bread or cake). Tolerance to egg-containing foods does not exclude the possibility of egg allergy (23). Egg allergy can be confirmed by a consistent medical history of adverse reactions to eggs and egg-containing foods, plus skin and/or blood testing for immunoglobulin E antibodies to egg proteins.

5. A previous severe allergic reaction to influenza vaccine, regardless of the component suspected to be responsible for the reaction, is a contraindication to future receipt of the vaccine.

Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccines

All currently available influenza vaccines are trivalent and contain A(H1N1), A(H3N2), and B viral antigens. There are two antigenically distinct lineages of influenza B viruses referred to as Victoria and Yamagata lineages (24). Immunization against B virus strains of one lineage provides limited cross-protection against strains in the other lineage (25). Because of this and the difficulty of predicting which B virus lineage will predominate during a given season, inclusion of a second influenza B vaccine virus strain in seasonal influenza vaccines has been proposed. A recent analysis indicates that the impact of such a quadrivalent vaccine could result in a modest reduction in influenza-associated outcomes, depending upon adequate vaccine supply, coverage, effectiveness, and incidence of influenza associated with the two B lineages (26).

In February 2012, FDA approved a new seasonal quadrivalent LAIV, FluMist Quadrivalent (MedImmune). This vaccine currently is not anticipated to be available until the 2013–14 influenza season, at which time it is expected to replace the currently available seasonal trivalent FluMist formulation (Table). Inactivated quadrivalent influenza vaccines currently are in development. These vaccines will be addressed in the ACIP influenza statement as they are approved and become available commercially.

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Acknowledgments

Members of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices; member roster for July 2011–June 2012 available at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/acip/members-archive/07-2011-06-2012.htm>.

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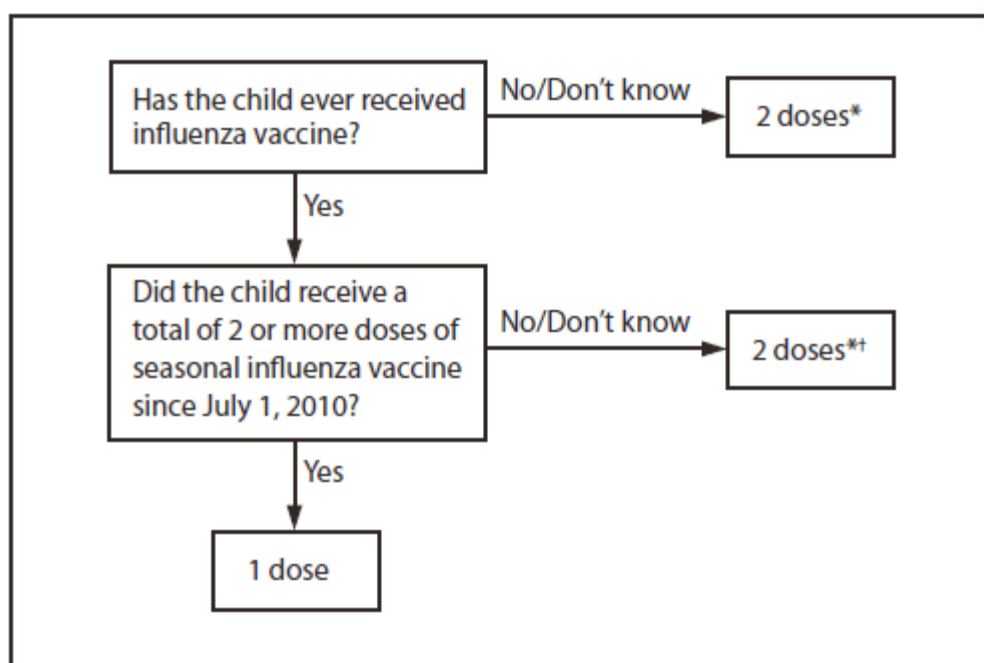
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Recommendations for routine use of vaccines in children and adolescents are issued by CDC and are harmonized to the greatest extent possible with recommendations made by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), and the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG). CDC recommendations for routine use of vaccines in adults are harmonized to the greatest extent possible with recommendations made by AAFP, ACOG, and the American College of Physicians. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is chartered as a federal advisory committee to provide expert external advice and guidance to the Director of CDC on use of vaccines in the civilian population of the United States. ACIP members are named by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ACIP recommendations become CDC policy once approved by the Director of CDC, on the date published by *MMWR*.

FIGURE 1. Influenza vaccine dosing algorithm for aged children 6 months through 8 years — Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, United States, 2012–13 influenza season



* Doses should be administered at least 4 weeks apart.

† For simplicity, this algorithm takes into consideration only doses of seasonal influenza vaccine received since July 1, 2010. As an alternative approach in settings where vaccination history from before July 1, 2010, is available, if a child aged 6 months through 8 years is known to have received at least 2 seasonal influenza vaccines during any previous season, and at least 1 dose of a 2009(H1N1)-containing vaccine (i.e., either 2010–11 or 2011–12 seasonal vaccine or the monovalent 2009[H1N1] vaccine), then the child needs only 1 dose for 2012–13. Using this approach, children aged 6 months through 8 years need only 1 dose of vaccine in 2012–13 if they have received any of the following: 1) 2 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine since July 1, 2010; 2) 2 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine before July 1, 2010, and 1 or more doses of monovalent 2009(H1N1) vaccine; or 3) 1 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine before July 1, 2010, and 1 or more doses of seasonal influenza vaccine since July 1, 2010. Children for whom one of these conditions is not met require 2 doses in 2012–2013.

Alternate Text: The figure above shows influenza vaccine dosing algorithm for aged children 6 months through 8 years in the United States, during the 2012-13 influenza season. Children are recommended to receive 2 doses this season, even if 2 doses of seasonal influenza vaccine were received before the 2010-11 season. This is illustrated in two approaches for determining the number of doses required for children aged 6 months through 8 years, both of which are acceptable.

TABLE. Influenza vaccine information, by age group — United States, 2012–13 inf

Vaccine	Trade name	Manufacturer	Presentation	Mercury content (μg Hg per 0.5 mL dose)	Ovalbumin content (μg per 0.5 mL dose) [†]	Age group

TIV	Fluzone	Sanofi Pasteur	0.25 mL prefilled syringe	0.0	— ^{\$}	6–36 mo
			0.5 mL prefilled syringe	0.0	— ^{\$}	≥36 mo
			0.5 mL vial	0.0	— ^{\$}	≥36 mo
			5.0 mL multidose vial	25.0	— ^{\$}	≥6 mo
TIV	Agriflu	Novartis Vaccines	0.5 mL prefilled syringe	0	<0.4	≥18 yrs
TIV	Fluvirin	Novartis Vaccines	0.5 mL prefilled syringe	≤1	≤1	≥4 yrs
			5.0 mL multidose vial	25.0	≤1	
TIV	Fluarix	GlaxoSmithKline	0.5 mL prefilled syringe	0	≤0.05	≥3 yrs
TIV	FluLaval	ID Biomedical Corporation of Quebec (distributed by GlaxoSmithKline)	5.0 mL multidose vial	<25.0	≤0.3	≥18 yrs
TIV	Afluria	CSL Biotherapies (distributed by Merck)	0.5 mL prefilled syringe	0.0	≤1	≥9 yrs ¹
			5.0 mL multidose vial	24.5	≤1	
TIV high-dose ^{ss}	Fluzone High-Dose	Sanofi Pasteur	0.5 mL prefilled syringe	0.0	— ^{\$}	≥65 yrs

TIV intradermal ^{¶¶}	Fluzone Intradermal	Sanofi Pasteur	0.1 mL prefilled microinjection system	0.0 (per 0.1 mL)	— [§]	18–yrs
LAIV	FluMist ^{***}	MedImmune	0.2 mL prefilled intranasal sprayer	0.0 (per 0.2 mL)	<0.24 (per 0.2mL) ^{†††}	2–4 yrs [§]

Abbreviations: TIV = trivalent inactivated vaccine; LAIV = live-attenuated influenza vaccine; IM = intramuscular; ID = intradermal

* Vaccination providers should consult Food and Drug Administration–approved prescribing information for 2012–13 influenza vaccines for information, including indications, contraindications, and precautions.

† Data on maximum ovalbumin content is supplied in package inserts of certain vaccines. Persons with a history of mild allergy to egg (specify only hives) should receive TIV with additional precautions (Figure 2).

§ Information is not included in package insert but is available upon request from the manufacturer, Sanofi Pasteur, by contacting 1-800-821-3333 or mis.emails@sanofipasteur.com.

¶¶ Figure 1 describes two approaches for determining the number of doses needed for children aged 6 months through 8 years.

** For adults and older children, the recommended site of vaccination is the deltoid muscle. The preferred site for infants and young children is the thigh.

†† Age indication per package insert is ≥5 years; however, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that Afluria not be used in children aged 6 months through 8 years because of increased risk for febrile reactions noted in this age group with CSL's 2010 Southern Hemisphere TIV. If no licensed inactivated seasonal influenza vaccine is available for a child aged 5 through 8 years who has a medical condition that increases the risk of complications, Afluria can be used; however, vaccination providers should discuss with the parents or caregivers the benefits and risks of influenza before administering this vaccine. Afluria may be used in persons aged ≥9 years.

§§ A 0.5-mL dose contains 60 µg of each vaccine antigen (180 µg total).

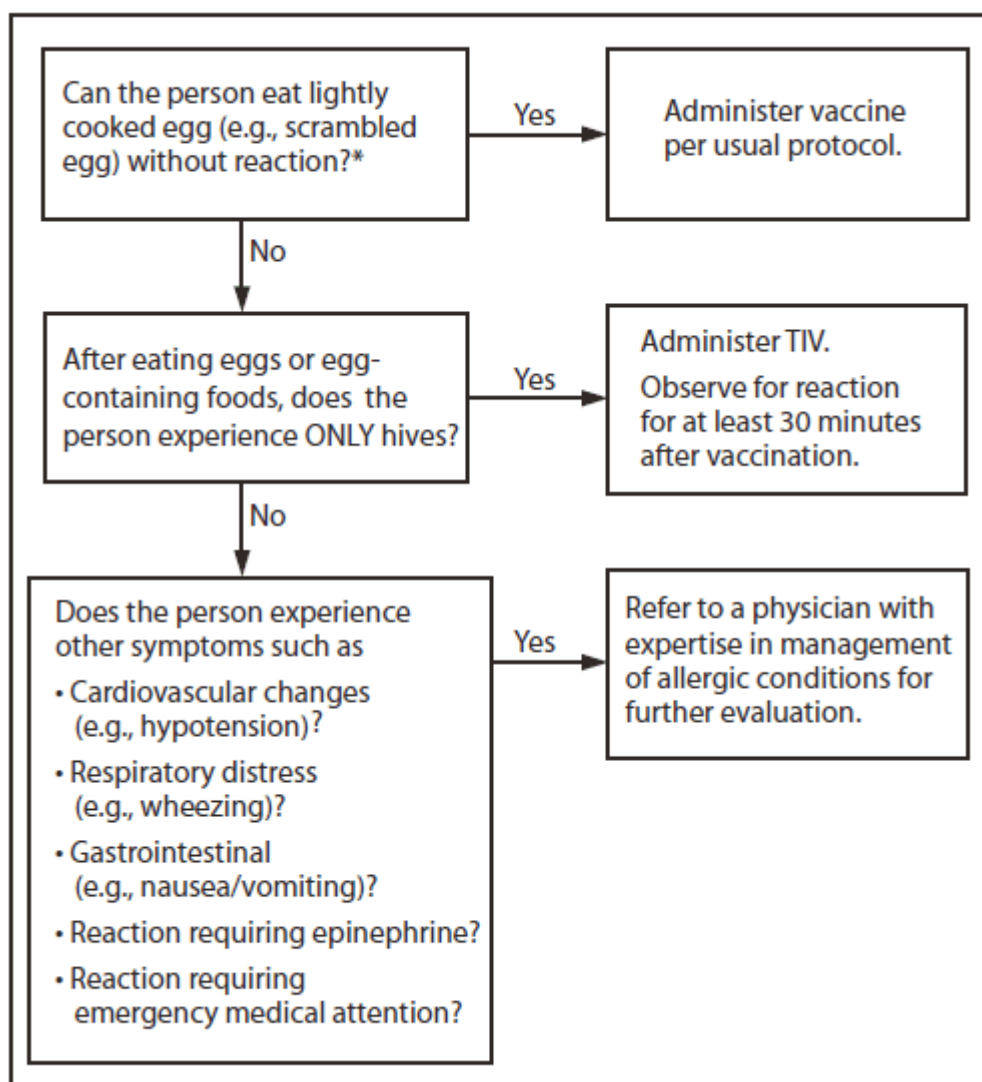
¶¶ A 0.1-mL dose contains 9 µg of each vaccine antigen (27 µg total).

*** A new quadrivalent formulation of FluMist was approved by the Food and Drug Administration in February 2012. It is anticipated that this will be the currently available seasonal trivalent LAIV formulation for the 2013–14 season. FluMist is shipped refrigerated and stored in the refrigerator after arrival in the vaccination clinic. The dose is 0.2 mL divided equally between each nostril. Health-care providers should consult the medical record to identify children aged 2 through 4 years with asthma or recurrent wheezing that might indicate asthma. In addition, to identify children who have asthma and possibly at increased risk for wheezing after receiving LAIV, parents or caregivers of children aged 2 through 4 years should be asked, "Has a health-care provider ever told you that your child had wheezing or asthma?" Children whose parents or caregivers answer "yes" to this question should not receive FluMist. Children whose parents or caregivers answer "no" to this question should not receive FluMist.

††† Insufficient data available for use of LAIV in egg-allergic persons.

§§§ FluMist is indicated for healthy, nonpregnant persons aged 2 through 49 years. Persons who care for severely immunosuppressed persons in a household environment should not receive FluMist given the theoretical risk for transmission of the live-attenuated vaccine virus.

FIGURE 2. Recommendations regarding influenza vaccination for persons who report allergy to eggs — Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, United States, 2012–13 influenza season



Abbreviation: TIV = trivalent inactivated vaccine.

* Persons with egg allergy might tolerate egg in baked products (e.g., bread or cake). Tolerance to egg-containing foods does not exclude the possibility of egg allergy.

Alternate Text: The figure above shows recommendations regarding influenza vaccination for persons who report a history of egg allergy, in the United States during the 2012-13 influenza season. Persons with a history of egg allergy who have experienced only hives after exposure to egg should receive influenza vaccine, with the use of additional safety measures.

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